THIS MONTH WE SALUTE

FRANKLIN ATLEE, K4PI,

FAMOUS

AMATEUR RADIO PIONEER

[redacted]

FLORIDA SKIP

VOLUME 13 NO. 9 THE ALL-FLORIDA RADIO AMATEUR'S PUBLICATION FEBRUARY / 1970 Price 20c

Final Report

Complete Florida HR-1121 Bill

As first reported in a front-page "Flash" in last month's Florida Skip, the lawsuit against "Grid", W4GJO, in which Lee H. Eggers, a former neighbor, sued W4GJO for a million dollars for "electronic invasion of privacy" and sought a court injunction to put him off the air, has been settled.

The complainant received no relief from the courts, and no injunction was ever issued against "Grid", nor was he required to pay any damages whatsoever. At one point during the lengthy proceedings, an injunction was issued against the complainant, Eggers, requiring him to cease and desist in harrassment of Grid and his family. Both cases have now been dismissed by agreement.

He had excellent legal representation in this matter, and a very complete and voluminous file of legal information was compiled. Since the complainant was completely unsuccessful, it would seem that the likelihood of such happening again is greatly reduced. But if such should occur, legal costs should be greatly reduced, as so much of the legal research has been completed.

Since the ARRL felt that it could not legally help financially, the entire cost was borne by Grid, with the help of many sympathetic hams from all over the country. Legal costs ran high . . . some $6,500.00. All but about $1300.00 has been paid. Contributions to help get this balance cleared, will be greatly appreciated, and can be sent to the Sarasota Amateur Radio Association, Inc., P.O. Box 3323, Sarasota, Florida 33578, who are administering the fund.

With the successful conclusion of this case, hams everywhere can now breathe easier, and the many hams who contributed support to the fight can take pride in the fact that they helped preserve the right of hams everywhere to operate legally without harrassment.

(Editors note: Thanks to our "man in Tallahassee" George Thurston, W4MLE we are able to print the complete controversial HR-1121 Bill. All amendments are included as of 1-14-70.) Also we print the "Financial Note" from Harry Smith, Staff Director of the House of Representatives. We hope to bring you more on this next month.)

HR-1121, a bill to be entitled An act relating to providing for the issuance by the Department of Motor Vehicles of special license tags to motor vehicle owners who operate citizens' band radio stations and to provide the procedure connected therewith:

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of Section 320.083, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 320.083 Amateur and Citizen Band Radio Operators; Special Tags; Fee.

(1) Owners of motor vehicles who are residents of the State, and who hold an unrevoked and unexpired official amateur or citizens' band radio station license issued by the Federal Communications Commission, upon application, accompanied by proof of ownership of such amateur or citizens' band radio station license, complying with the State motor vehicle laws relating to registration under subsection (2) of section 320.08, Florida Statutes, and licensing of upon the payment of an additional fee of five dollars ($5.00), shall be issued a license plate, as prescribed by Section 320.06, for private passenger cars, upon which, in lieu of the numbers as prescribed by said Section 320.06, shall be inscribed the official amateur or citizens' band radio call letter of such applicant as assigned by the Federal Communications Commission. Provided that duplicate numbered plates shall not be issued.

Section 2. This act shall take effect June 1, 1970.

The purpose of the bill is to provide a means whereby citizens band radio operators can purchase a personalized license plate from the Department of Motor Vehicles. At the present time, there are approximately 2,500 special license plates issued to **amateur radio operators.** Under this vroposed bill, they would issue between 100,000 — 150,000 additional special tags to those **citizens band radio operators.**

Financial Effect: The Department of Motor Vehicles

(Continued on Page 16)

AS PROMISED, HERE is another photo of THE K4PI MUSEUM. Franklin Atlee of St. Pete probably has the largest collection of the old Attwater Kents in the world. He advised he has more old gear coming all the time. Note the 1870 telegraph keys and sounders on the left. If anyone has any old (1900's) gear collecting dust contact Frank at 92 - 31st Ave., St. Petersburg, Fla. 33706. (Photo via K4PI)

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—Editor

Dear Mabel XYL Award, c/o Skip, Box 501, Miami Springs, Fla.

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W8WVU ex K4BGZ
8R1Y W4 ex VP4TY, 9Y4TY, VP 3 YG

Letters To Editor

The enclosed newspaper story "Snowballs Flew Wednesday" appeared in the 18 Dec. 69 issue of TODAY Newspaper.

This will bring you up to date on the request from a Nebraska school teacher (Dorothy Bush, WNOVNE) desiring to communicate with children from a school located near the Kennedy Space Center.

As you recall, you received the original request and then it was relayed to Don Copeland, W4CII of Palm Bay, Florida. Don contacted us and we took over from there. Sometime in the near future we expect to set up a sked with a Nebraska "ham." At that time we will have the local school children visit the Space Center Amateur Radio Club and have them talk with their pen pals in Nebraska. This will surely be a thrill for them.

Will arrange with the local paper to cover this story and will of course send you a copy.

73,

Roy J. Durso K4DJN
Publicity Chairman
'Space Center Amateur
Radio Society

Enclosed please find one dollar and S.A.S.E. covering a request for message forms and one of your calendars.

We enjoy reading Skip each month and never miss a single article or ad. Keep up the good work.

We also enjoy your 10 KW signal on the air. hi. Give our best regards to one of your co-defendents, "Bugs" Murr, W4FWI, an old soldier buddy of mine from way back in 1932-36 when we operated station "WYB" from Bolling Field, Washington, D.C. Bugs was a ham even then, but I was working under the impression that you didn't have to be crazy to work radio, but it helped, and didn't take the exam until 1958. In fact, I didn't touch a key from 1936 until 1958. I worked for the Air Force as a civilian at Middletown Air Depot starting as a radio electrician and finally ending up as the general Superintendent of the shops employing 3500 people. I retired in 1962 as a result of a heart attack.

Prior to coming to Florida, I was K3IMP and was active in E. Pa. 3RN and EAN traffic nets.

Keep up the good work on Skip. Best wishes for success in 1970.

Mac, WA4IJH
Venice, Fla.

FROM THE EDITOR

We would like to thank all those who sent Christmas cards and best wishes for the new year.

It was real pleasure seeing so many of our old friends at the Miami Hamboree this year. We hope you liked our little give away award and those who did not receive one may obtain one by sending a No. 10 envelope (10" wide) and a 6 cent stamp and we will be happy to mail it.

The annual ARRL SET has just concluded. Thanks to all who participated. A reminder to all EC's to get in your reports without delay.

See the January issue, page 7, for the rules and regulations on our upcoming Sixth Annual Florida QSO Party, April 4th & 5th.

Keep the simple tech articles coming. As you know we pay $5.00 for each one we print.

We hope you like the new look this month in FLORIDA SKIP. Simcox & Associates advised us that FLORIDA SKIP is the first issue using their new equipment. We hope to have a photo of it in operation next month.

Once again Seasons Greetings from the staff of FLORIDA SKIP.

TALK ABOUT DEAD!

By Jim Wilson, W4GDK

Everything had seemed all right that morning of November 18. A Navy MARS net on 6970 had been OK as far up as Tennessee as late as 10:30 AM with good signals. A later check of the forty meter band indicated it was normal.

Jim Wilson W4GDK of Ft. Lauderdale was scheduled as NCS on FMTN on 7254 khz at noon. As he tuned up he was surprised that he heard no signals. Nevertheless he started the roll call. The only answer he got was from Ruth WA4HED a few blocks away. She could hear no one else either. Everything has blacked out.

Finally WA4IYG of Punta Gorda came in very weakly. He

Finally WA4IYG of Punta Gorda came in very weakly. He said a second station was also calling the roll. To avoid confusion he got that stopped and suggested Jim call the roll again.

On the second round, QCG St. Pete, UJX and FP Lakeland, and KGZ of Ft. Pierce began to show. At the end of another hour we had 33 stations who all wondered what we had been through.

Later info from ESSA mentioned a serious solar storm which caused the black out.

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PHONE PATCHES

FCC has authorized the telephone companies to file tariffs to cover interconnection of customer devices, to be effective on January 1, 1969. This action "legalizes" the phone patches affected by the decision. In general, an amateur may now use a "voice coupler" device between the telephone company lines and his patch unit. There are certain criteria prescribed for the performance of units which may be interconnected, largely to avoid peaking of energy at certain switching control audio frequencies. Briefly, the criteria specified for systems connected to the telephone company's lines by direct electrical connection (of which type most amateur installations are) include the following:

A. The power of the signal at the central office shall not exceed 12 dB below 1 milliwatt when averaged over any 3-second interval.

B. The signal at the interface on the customer's premises shall be controlled so that:

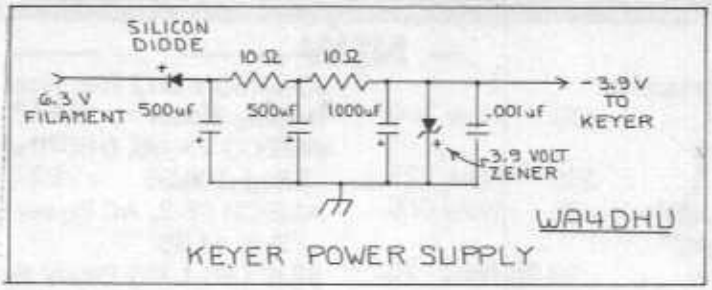
1. The power between 3,995 and 4,005 Hz shall be at least 18 dB below the signal specified in A. above.

2. The power between 4,000 and 10,000 Hz shall not exceed 16 dB below 1 milliwatt.

3. The power between 10,000 and 25,000 Hz shall not exceed 24 dB below 1 milliwatt.

4. The limitations for the 25,000 to 40,000 Hz and the band above 40,000 Hz shall be 36 dB and 50 dB below 1 milliwatt respectively.

5. The signal shall have no energy solely in the 2450 to 2750 Hz band and any signal in this band shall not exceed the power present at the same time in the 800 to 2450 Hz band.



IC KEYER POWER SUPPLY

By Dick Blasco, WA4DHU

Here's a little circuit for the gung-ho CW man who wants to build his integrated circuit keyer into his rig. Power is borrowed from a nearby filament line, rectified, filtered some, and regulated with the Zener diode. The .001 uf capacitor helps bypass RF which may foul up the keyer circuits.

This circuit was used to build a "Digi-Key" electronic keyer into a HW-16, and is compact enough so that everything can be placed in vacant spaces under the chassis. This supply has not been tried on audio circuits, and you might watch out for some AC hum if you try it. The filtering shown is quite adequate for digital circuitry, however, and the keyer works perfectly inside the rig.

If you have any "custom installations", send them along to SKIP, P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs, Florida 33166, and we'll send you five bucks if we print it.

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE CORPS

By Ken W4SMK

The Simulated Emergency Test 1970 will be history by the time you read this. We hope as many of you as possible took part in this event to prove your willingness and ability to assist in emergency communications. Do not fail to send in your reports, especially all EC's, to ARRL Hq. and to W4IYT or W4IKB.

Unfortunately, because of a mailing error, ARRL only sent one copy of the SET report form to each EC, while three copies should have been sent. Please make two additional copies to send; one to your SEC, and one for your own files. This report and your annual report should be mailed to ARRL and the SEC ASAP. Deadline for the annual report is Feb. 1. Deadline for the SET report is March 16.

We are sorry to report the resignation of Herschel W4PBK, as EC of Charlotte and Sarasota counties. He and his XYL have both been in poor health, and we trust they will find things better in the new year.

WB4CBP is the new EC in Dade County, and W4IYT says they have big plans for the SET there. Red Cross and the local VHF repeater groups will be very active.

Don't fail to read the reports on hurricane Camille in Jan. QST. Many Fla. stations are named among those who aided during the communications emergency.

If the present weather trend continues you North Fla. boys may get some experience in a blizzard type of situation, hi. Don't forget the anti-freeze for your mobile rigs and big emergency generators.

Along with the cold weather we have frequent tornado alerts in Florida as the cold fronts pass down the State. These storms are much less predictable than are the hurricanes, so keep alert for any unusual weather conditions in your areas.

PHONY PHONETICS

ALFA said BRAVO, CHARLIE. Lets go to the DELTA and listen to the ECHO, dance the FOXTROT and play GOLF at the HOTEL INDIA.

We had better take JULIETT with us for she would fly thousands of KILOs even to LIMA to see MIKE in NOVEMBER before OSCAR, her PAPA takes her to QUEBEC to see ROMEO at the SIERRA and dance the TANGO. Ok, get out of UNIFORM and get VICTOR to get us some decent WHISKEY. X-RAY stuff they serve would turn a YANKEE into a ZULU.

(Bill K4GJ in Ground Wave—DBARA)

WE WENT THAT-A-WAY!

If you never have been on a hidden transmitter hunt — you must go sometime. We rode shot-gun with an expert in this field and was surprised to see everyone chasing signals across fields that you could not cross. Some were going in the opposite directions to us at times, leading us to believe we were lost — and that we were most of the time. So get yourself a loop and a mobile receiver that tunes to 29.044 (a0m) and join us next time on the Flamingo transmitter hunt.

K4CZX and K4CZY planned the big one on Dec. 28th, hiding in Miami Springs at a public picnic grounds. The Signal Chasers started at the Northside Shopping Center in Miami with no idea which way to go until the hidden signal came on. We were the last to leave and wouldn't you know it we were the last to come in, after being completely lost most of the time.

W4DTJ, W4WYR — Carl, Evelyn, came in first, K4TT and Mrs. K4TT were second, W4GJ, Walt was third, with W4MNN, Charlie fourth. The rest came straggling in after being coached over the air to join K4CZX—K4CZY and the winners at a real old fashioned Ham-fest. Frankfurters and sauerkraut on an outdoor grill on a Sunday afternoon with Hams all over the place and plenty of refreshments brought the Hunt-Fest to a close.

WA4BAL — W4JO Team

SILENT KEYS

We regret to report the passing of the following Florida amateurs:

W9ACE 4, Melvin J. Baer, Miami Shores.

K4AA, Edwin Nuttall, Boynton Beach

K4BD, Edward O. Reid, Clearwater

WA4BGV, Lorne D. Beggs, St. Petersburg

W4HJ, Capt. James C. Hargreaves, USN, Pensacola

W4KBM, Robert E. Grow, Largo.

W4OMY, Robert P. Jean, Tampa

K4PXY, W.L. (Pat) Patterson, St. Petersburg.

W4QR, Newell B. Davis, Orange City.

WA4STE, Harry Springfield, Miami Beach.

K4TZL, Frank Barker, St. Petersburg.

K4YBL, John W. Hornor, Jr., Ft. Lauderdale.

W4ZPF, Wm. McCutucheon, Holly Hill.

MARS
AIR FORCE

J. R. Hopkins, WB4BND

Another Holiday season has passed and again you have all come through in fine style. My congratulations to you all for a job well done. I am sure that there are many thousands of grateful relatives throughout area two whose Christmas was made complete by news from their loved ones. I know it made mine infinitely more complete to hear the joy and thanks from the recipients of those I was lucky to deliver news to during this holiday season. I hope all of you got to do this and received the same reward. I also hope you all had the best of holidays and continue to enjoy the after glow throughout the entire year. I may have been remiss in not wishing you the season's greetings previous to this, but it seemed too early in November when it would have had to be done and that means writing it in the Oct. column. That was much too early for me to relate to the season just passed.

Winter propagation is upon us and at times has caused some relay problems on the area net. This has been minor up to now, and, with far less trouble to our Florida stations than the recent Spanish language interference we had up to recently. All things considered, our present frequency has been much more reliable with better signals than the previous two. Now, I hear that we must give it up within the next couple of months and move to another one not yet determined. I hope they announce our new one as early as possible so that there will be a minimum lag for our faithful net members being able to check in. As you are all well aware, a crystal for the net frequency is more desirable in keeping within the close net tolerance we maintain for our superior traffic handling methods.

I'd like to bring up the idea of a secondary assignment to you. Here's what I have in mind. If you have multiple frequency capabilities there's no problem. You check in on another net you are not assigned to on a somewhat regular basis, and it doesn't interfere with your primary, why not take this as your secondary and thereby why not take this as your secondary and thereby accept some additional responsibility without not really inconveniencing yourself. You are already there most of the time. For those of you without multi-frequency capabilities there are other things to do, like helping the youth training people nearest you. If only to show up and answer questions occasionally. Or, start your own. How about asking your net member if he can use another ANCS etc.?

OFFICERS FOR 1970 elected at November B.A.R.C. meeting. Front (left to right) Vice Pres. Ormond Bullis W4PKD and President Ruth Christian WA4HED. Back row (left to right) Secy. Harold Wormser WB4HSB, Comm. Off. Ted Champagne WB4FLW and Treas. Richard Gunter WB4CIC, Ft. Lauderdale. —photo via W4GDK

WESTERN FLORIDA NEWS
Frank M. Butler, Jr. W4RKH

Pensacola: First showing of the new ARRL film, "Ham's Wide World", was on Ch. 3 here. The NAS Club, W4NBF, was reactivated by K7ZCK with all new equipment. It is located in Hangar 708. W4BKI, Gulf Breeze, assisted in the rescue of a stranded ship off the coast of Nicaragua. The FFARA held a FB Christmas Party.

Fort Walton: New Novices include WN4PAU, PBA, PEF, and PFV. The last is W4RKH's Jr. Op. The WB4KLT repeater is back on the air after shutdown to permit repainting the water tank transmitter site. WB4NHH is now ORS; he put up 80-meter folded dipole and 4BTV vertical. K4YLM is active again from Laurel Hill.

Chipley: WA4SRR, WA4TUO and W4IKB assisted in the search for two lost children. Marianna: W4AIA is back on the air after many years, on 146.94 FM.

Wewahitchka: W4CCA lost his 2 antennas to high winds.

Port St. Joe: W4WEB got a new Cygnet 270 mobile portable rig.

Quincy: WN4OYM just got his Novice ticket.

Tallahassee: K4GRD moved here from Lakeland. WB4IXX was appointed OPS and OVS.

You can have the guy who's always searching for the bright side; I'll take the one who's in there polishing up the dull.

FLORIDA TAG LEGISLATION
By Al Marcy, W4ID

Well, at long last it has happened. Not that it has been unexpected by me — I have looked for it ever since the CB-ers, those frustrated would be "HAMS" became organized to illicit use of the F.C.C. folly, the so-called "Citizen's Band".

Representative Robinson, whoever he is, has submitted a bill to the Florida Legislature, known as HB-1121, which provides for the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue special license tags to motor vehicle owners who operate Citizen' Band radio stations.

This bill has been reported favorable by Public Safety with amendments, Finance and Taxation, and Appropriations. It is now with Rules and Calendar.

I do not know what the "amendments" are but they might well call for additional charges for such plates and in any event I am sure this sort of thing bodes no good for Amateur operators. Recently, in California, they had a terrific problem, where the Citizen Banders wanted motor vehicle license plates for their cars and were quite willing that the tariff to Amateurs should go up to $20. yearly for their plates. It was defeated only after a very concerted effort on the part of all Amateurs who practically drowned their Legislature with protests.

I feel that the Amateurs of Florida should let the Legislature know they are being taken for a ride. I am notifying Dale Streiter, W4DQS today of the situation and suggest that he spear-head a drive to stop this nonsense.

"GEORGE, STOP SNORING IN C.W. !!!"

NOFARS NEWS
By Billy Williams, WA4UFW

NOFARS now meets on the second floor of Duval County Civil Defense HQ at 107 Market. This is a shift from the third floor.

The Annual Dinner Meeting was held in December with the installation of officers for 1970. A film of our accomplishments during 1969 was shown.

While NOFARS member Ron Locke, W4YPX, didn't win the SCM race, we do wish to congratulate W4KGJ and wish him the best of luck at the post.

Our President for 1970, Jerry Anderson, W4IQT, called the first Board of Directors meeting and plans a reorganization of NOFARS committees. A questionnaire is being included on the dues form for this year to determine the interests of the members.

It seems that the permanent location of W4IZ is nearly complete and should be on the air within the next month or so in conjunction with the NOFARS Training Program for new hams. The station will be used to give those who get their novice tickets on-the-air experience. The training program is now in full swing under the able direction of Bob Murphy, K4PZW. It features classes for general and advanced class licensees as well as novices. An Extra Class program may be added if response is good enough.

Pete Smith, WB4IAH, is now on sideband with a KWM-1. Pete spends a lot of time on ten meters with WB4's LEQ and MEC.

K4DSN has been re-appointed as head of the 1970 Field Day Committee as we get to work on the problems that bedeviled us last year in our operation from the Gator Bowl.

BRANDON AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
By Gene Burton WA4YNW

The Brandon Amateur Radio Society met Monday, January 12, at the First Federal Hospitality Room. Jim WA4ZWW gave an interesting talk on Transistors (F.E.T.), giving some ham uses and going over some circuits.

At the business meeting, new committee chairmen were named as follows: Field Day — Harold WA4SRQ; Publicity — AAl WA4RGO; Membership — Dennis WN4OZX; TVI — Ed WA4SRG; Historian — Gene WA4YNW; ARRL Coordinator — Lou K4ASP; and CD Coordinator — Al WA4RGO.

Goals for the year were discussed, including finding a permanent radio station location, getting a club call, having educational and entertaining programs, and helping each other upgrade their stations and licenses.

GCARC

At a regular meeting of the Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Club held in the library of the Richey Elementary School on December 18, the following officers were elected and will assume office on January 1, 1970:

President: Clay Foster — K4ATW, V. Pres: Jack Brazee — W4ZNQ, Secretary: William Shuster — WB4LOA, Treasurer: Fred Marchman — WA4WBM

The GCARC is a member of the Pasco Emergency Net and operates on 50.4 Mc. Net practice is conducted each Thursday at 7:00 PM, E.S.T.

Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month in the library of the Richey Elementary School at 7:30 PM. Visitors are invited to attend.

The code and theory class being conducted by the writer, W4VCY, is doing fine and a new group will soon be added to the amateur radio fraternity.

73, W4VCY

COLUMBIA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY LAKE CITY, FLA.

Editor:

Richard Stanley Greene W4CYG of 2864 West Hillsboro Street was re-elected president of the Columbia Amateur Radio Society last Tuesday night during the annual meeting held in the cafeteria of Division Hospital. Mr. Greene who served as president last year, during a period of growth and organization, is employed by the Department of Transportation as District radio dispatcher.

Other officers selected were David Young W4KYX vice-president, employed by the Florida Forest Service as the local District radio dispatcher. H. G. Parker W4YNM was re-elected as secretary-treasurer and is employed by Columbia County School Board for 19 years and is currently serving as physics and mathematics teacher at Columbia High School.

The Columbia Amateur Radio Society meets every 1st and 3rd Mondays at the local CD Office where an amateur radio station is maintained by the Society and operates under FCC license of WB4MLD. This station is "net control" of the Columbia Amateur Radio Society and the affiliated group of amateurs in Columbia County ready to carry on public communications in time of disaster, or emergency.

A program of CD films and a question and answer period proceeded the election of the new officers.

SOUTH MIAMI RADIO CLUB
By Ernie K4KIC

With the holidays behind us and the football season over new excuses will have to be found by some of our members for not attending meetings. However due to the members who were interested in the club we were able to keep the club going.

Things are looking brighter for the new year already as we had a very fine meeting at the home of Bill Neno our Vice President. We had fifteen people show up. A nice sociable evening was had by all. We were pleased to have Chuck Bolvin ARRL Vice Director as a visitor.

Due to the untiring efforts of George WB4JFA our secretary we will now be able to meet in a permanent location as we did some years ago. Beginning with our Feb. 6th meeting we will meet at the Coral Gables Police Station in the main courtroom. We will meet on the first and third Friday of each month. This is centrally located for our area and hope to get new members and see some of the old ones return.

So until next month we will say 73 and all the best in 1970.

FLORIDA VHF SIDEBANDERS
By K4LFF

Things are still sort of quiet up here in the cold northeast, but Leo — WA4MHS tells me things are very active down in the Tampa area with several new Drake SSB rigs, and according to January QST, Leo finally got recognition for working ZK1AA, (A-1 too). Congrats to you, and also Bob, W4GDS who were the only known ones to work the 5000 mile path to Cook Island from this part of the country. Lets be listening for another strange call this winter around 50.100 . . . WP2MJ, known also as VE3EVW. Monty will be on Montserrat in the Caribbean for the winter.

State side; Grid, W4GJO is "off the book" and he didn't have to pay any of the million dollars. Some of these TVI complaints are sure corny. In my area, the local police radio really tears up TV (especially channel 17) and when they spot my call letter tag, they immediately put the blame on me for the problem although they have existed for years. I guess this is just one of the pit falls in picking the hobby of amateur radio.

I am still not going to drop my membership in every magazine that doesn't agree with me 100 percent and quit the fraternity because of a small group that has some radical ideas. Life cs too darn short to not get some enjoyment out of it, and I for one, sure get plenty of pleasure and satisfaction in being a ham. Lets get together, get active and help make every one proud of belonging to such a group.

FLORIDA GATOR CHAPTER
Hal Bates, WA4FIU

On Dec. 20 the "Gator" Chapter had a very nice meeting at the Coach House in St. Petersburg with sixty six in attendance. Just about the time this appears in print, we will be having another meeting; this time at the Causeway Inn on the Tampa end of the Courtney-Campbell Causeway, Route 60. It is going to be held at noon.

The yearly chore of electing officers to the chapter is now about to take place and

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nominations are in order. The offices are for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Sec.-Treasurer. The latter I have held for two years, and feel that it is time some of the members should volunteer to take over for at least one year. Discussion will be in order for this meeting on Jan. 24gh. Discussion will be in order for this meeting on Jan. 24th. There is a possibility that the election will be held at the Orlando meeting, but that is up to the membership.

A new Roster of all the members of the "Gator" Chapter is in the mail now, along with the requests for Nominations. A big turnout is expected, especially at Orlando, so come on fellows lets go.

ORLANDO RAMBLINGS
Hal, W4BKC

And a Happy New Year to You too. Only casualty we know about was "Doc" W4ZVV, slipped and fell on his left shoulder. He will be wearing the arm in a sling for the period required for it to heal. He will assume the position of Chief weather prognosticator, recently vacated by Harold Witt, K4GA when his ankle healed.

Hear that Rom, W4UOC is to be transferred to Delaware, in February, by his company. It will be a desk job, so perhaps Tom will get more time for hamming from the "little state". Best wishes for success in the new assignment, Tom.

Paul, the postman, K4JSS, has about decided to quit helping that fat, whiskered guy in the red suit for Xmas he got a bra and slip and the xyl got a box of cigars, a fast swap corrected that.

Harold Witt, K4GA, Prexy of the O.A.R.C. Inc., says that negotiations with the First Federal Bank in College Park have been completed, and the club will meet there during 1970; third Wednesday of each month, 8:00 P.M.

FORT MYERS CLUB
By Ken W4SMK

There are quite a few new faces at the FMARC meetings. Since many of the newcomers are not licensed we are discussing plans for another class in code and theory.

WA4NNB, Vince has a dandy mobile installation and has been keeping schedules with WA4LBM 4.

WA4VEI, John, who is one of WA4HDH's boys, also has a nice mobile rig which he will be using to keep skeds with Doc while away at school.

Club president WB4JHV has been quite active over the holidays operating both phone and CW. Les es trying to make BPL, he said. He also plans to join MARS when he reaches the age limit.

Don, WA4LBM 4 is operating from Ft. Walton Beach where he and his bride Tana are living in a mobile home park. He has a good signal with his HW-12.

We had a nice letter from Mike, K4OBD who is now living in Atlanta, Ga. He has been inactive since they live in an apartment and antennas are a problem, but he hopes to get back on the air soon.

K4CAH had a spectacular display for Xmas with a big lighted star at 70 ft. on his tower.

W4DKJ was one of several amateurs donating equipment to the newly organized Boy's Ranch ham club.

Herb, W4KET had some minor surgery and is coming along nicely. W4TKS, who works for Herb, is counting the days until his son Tommy gets out of the Navy.

Wishing all Skip readers the best in 1970.

SUNCOAST ROVING REPORTER
Cathy Soehl
W4BAV AREA ARNS

Sarasota Amateur Radio Association elected the following officers for 1970: president W4GJO "Grid" Gridley; vice-president WN4LYU Jim Cain; secretary WB4AQV Hal Rabjohns; treasurer WB4EHX Phil Anderson. A showing of the film "Hams World Wide" was enjoyed at their December meeting; though the film was not the new one narrated by Arthur Godfrey.

W4UFR Earl Hill is in the process of constructing a Heathkit Color TV for his brother. Good luck, Earl!

K3LFZ (ex-W4LGJ) Esther Ray and OM Henry, of Warminster, Pa., visited her mother in St. Petersburg for a few days, as they were returning from spending Christmas with son and family in Texas. Esther is a former SPARC member.

K4KKK, Jim Clark, has repaired his rotor and rebuilt his beam with all new traps, so he is operating with maximum efficiency. Jim is 86 years young and is active in constructing and repairing antennas. He does all his own climbing.

W4WPD Shirley Hill, is Master Oscillator for the Knights of the Kilocycle during the next six months.

WN4MEA, Maude and OM, WB4ISZ, Jim Hall, attended their niece's wedding at the All Saint's Episcopal Church, December 26, in Winter Park, with the reception held at the Langford Hotel.

W4BAV, Cathy and OM, W4GHR, Bill Soehl, enjoyed a visit from WA8QHG Martha and OM, WA8MJN George Green, from Atwater, Ohio. A few days later, K8ONA Eunice Bernon, from Cleveland, Ohio and W4OJH Jack Greene, stopped by for a few hours "yack-fest". Eunice and the Greens are annual visitors to the Suncoast area. We look forward to their retiring down here.

SOUTHERN SECTION COUNTRY COUSINS
Cathy Soehl
W4BAV AREA ARNS

W4THO Joe and XYL Maude Gray, were kept busy entertaining relatives from England, so we missed Joe on the net for a few nights.

K4VLE Steve Johnson, had an unwelcome visitor around Xmas — a high wind that view down his tower.

K4LOK, Jack Grimsley, had to forego checking into the net when a change of shift on his job with the City of Jacksonville. We are sorry to hear Jack is now having trouble with his eyes. We trust the condition has been corrected and all is well, Jack. We will look forward to hearing you on the air.

WB4EZF, Bob Crowder's XYL Betty, was one happy gal when she finally stepped off the plane recently, having been snowed in at St. Louis for a couple of days. Bob, needless to say, was also delighted.

WAOZQJ, Ernie, of St. Louis, checked into the net Dec. 30th and advised he was a former secretary of the Country Cousins when he was living in Decatur, Ala.

K4KIV, Bill Whitten, is the most recent member to the Southern Section of the Country Cousins.

Everyone is welcome to check into the Country Cousin Net, which meets every night at 10 P.M. on 3970 KC. A certificate is issued when you check in 4 out of 5 consecutive week nights and send the secretary two 6 cent stamps. Any former Country Cousin may receive a new certificate by returning the old one, with two 6 cent stamps, to secretary W4BAV Cathy Soehl, 647 Jungle Way, Sarasota, Fla., 33580. The old certificate will be returned with the new one.

K4GZ, Cal and XYL, Minna May Louis, rung out the old year with W4BAV, Cathy and W4GHR, Bill Soehl, in Sarasota.

GULFSTREAM SOCIETY OF AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS, INC.
By Al Suhr, WB4AID

The Society is pleased to announce that the FM Repeater is officially licensed and on the air. Credit must go to Richard Kidder, WB4AKH, vice-president of this Society for his work and enterest in achieving this fete. His leadership and inspiration was the force behind the program as chairman of the FM Facility. His is the responsiblity of engineering and designing the many circuits required for such a machine. Oh yes! He had help on the labor front, but at this time we want to pay him the respect of energy and thought and deed. The call is WB4FPB.

Another first for the Society is the activity of Joe White, WB4KZU who has accomplished the laborious task of arranging for tax deduction through the Internal Revenue Service. It is now possible for interested persons to make donations to the Society and claim that donation on their income tax as a deduction. I believe Joe has written a book of letters in this connection to the authorities.

We greet three new members, each has responded to our letter of invitation to affiliate as a member:

Charles H. Whitaker, W4BDM 4 retired businessman.

Tom Lindberg, WB4OPL, high school student in West Palm Beach.

Steven E. Mandell, WB4DVH, sophomore at Palm Beach Junior College.

The Society will conduct an exhibition at the South Florida Fair, January 25 through February 2. Sponsor for this booth and exhibit will be Burnup and Sims, Inc. of West Palm Beach, who ILL JOINTLY SHARE THE BOOTH WITH THE SOCIETY. Each will have a program. Administrative chairman jnd coordinator for this program is Joe White, WB4KZU. He will be assisted by all members of the Scoiety. Jim Johnson, W4JBX, engineer-trustee of the society, will be gear and equipment chairman. Vice-president Dick Kidder and yours truly will be another part of the committee.

Nominating committee chairman, John Szymanski, WB4EGU, has, as his committeemen, Frank Piverotto, WA4TBN and Karl G. Sturz, WB4LNH. Can you imagine, they want an expense account! They've undoubtedly been reading too much about state politics — HI.

SPACE CENTER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
By Roy J. Durso K4DJN

The start of another year and we hope some wonderful things in "ham" radio. Two meter FM very active here in Brevard County and one of our club members Howard, WA4ZCB is now mobile on 146.940 MHz.

The past few months has shown an increase in local activity on 28.805 MHz. The fellows are converting used citizens band band equipment for use on the 10 meter band. Perhaps this will catch on and ejoy the same popularity as FM. Time will tell.

Ambrose, W4GHV who is attending Auburn College says the scenery there is "fantastic" and he is learning to rotate his head a full 360 degrees! Ambrose has many projects going from CW through RTTY. Don't know where he gets all the time.

Many thanks to Florida Skip for saluting us as club of the month in the December 1969 issue. We blushed a little! I will try to get a picture of all the gang in the near future if I can ever get them all together.

Those of you who read the article in TODAY Newspaper titled "Snowballs on Merritt Island" will be interested to know that the "pen pal" elementary school children in Lincoln, Nebraska and those of the Merritt Island School will have the opportunity to meet each other on the air from the club station. The children from Merritt Island mailed Florida oranges to Nebraska and they in turn mailed snowballs to the Merritt Island school. Needless to say the oranges lasted longer than the snowballs!

At the December 9th meeting, amendments of the by-laws were approved and nominations were held for Vice President and Secretary Treasurer. Newly elected were Roy, K4DJN and Lee, WA3JPW WA5HSL.

73 DX Roy

B.A.R.C.
By Jim Wilson W4GDK

At the year-end party of the Broward Amateur Radio Club near Hollywood an important annual award was made. The

(Continued on Page 8)

AMATEUR-OF-THE-YEAR-AWARD went to Pat Healy WA4VWJ (left) and Dick Chmelik WB4CBO (seated) presented by Broward Amateur Radio Club President, Zane McCreary WA4KXI of Ft. Lauderdale. The presentation was made at the Annual BARC dinner. Pat and Dick shared a $25.00 cash award. For complete story read BARC Club column by Jim Wilson. (Photo via W4GDK)

CLUB NEWS

(Continued from Page 7)

Club recognized the Amateur of the Year.

This year, however, the award went to two deserving hams because of a deadlock in the Board consideration. Equally deserving of the award, it was said, were Pat Healy WA4VWJ and Dick Chmelik WB4CHO for quite different reasons.

Pat, a disabled veteran, is very active as manager of the net run daily by the International Missionary Radio Assn. The net serves missionaries of all faiths in many parts of the world. Its many Its many members in the States provide phone patches and emergency communications of all kinds to missionaries in foreign countries. It is a revelation to hear this net operate and gisten to its accomplishments. It operates on 14280 khz at 1900 Z and 0100 Z. Pat monitors many hours when the net is not in operation. He is to be congratulated.

It is the new hams that concerned Dick Chmelik. Several years ago he became interested in giving code and theory instruction to those who had indicated they would like to become hams. Since that time Dick has been spending two evenings a week helping others join our hobby. Lots hours have gone into this effort and about 20 individuals have passed their exams as a result of Dick's training efforts. He surely is to be congratulated.

The picture elsewhere shows the presentation of an engraved plaque to each by Pres. Zane McCreary WA4KXI. They shared a $25.00 cash award.

With so many showers for brides, nearly everyone gets soaked!

It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice.

Before a person tries his hand at something he ought to try his head at it.

Before marriage he spoons around, and later he forks over.

MEET JOHN F. PORTER W4KGJ, recently re-elected Section Communication Manager (SCM) for ARRL Eastern Florida Section. John held the office from 1957 through 1961. He hopes to make his 10 club meetings and requests all clubs send him their meeting nights. Look for him on 75 and 40 and the Florida LO net, Wednesdays at 8 p.m. on 3940 kc.

—SKIP photo

SCM's Corner

By John F. Porter W4KGJ

This resume of how the Eastern Fla. Section will be run during my term of office is for the new comer and out of state transplants. The local "Old Timers" know from past experience how I operate. Our Section is not a one man operation. The reason we have stayed near the top cs due to a lot of hard work by dedicated Hams who give unselfishly of their time. It takes the combined efforts of all to maintain this high standard.

The SEC and respective ECs will handle all emergency planning. The SEC will recommend appointments of ECs. The RMs will recommend appointments of ORS. The PAMs all appointments of OPS. Recommendations from any or all of the above will be solicited for other Official appointments. Section Net Managers will recommend those stations eligible to receive Section Net Certificates. The following rules will apply. Section Emergency Nets: Three check ins per month for three months. Section certificates will not be issued for "wallpaper" collectors, they will have to be earned. The final decision on all appointments will rest with me.

Traffic is the life blood of our Section Nets, therefore all reports other than those written, should be sent via radiogram. This will assist the various nets in their traffic counts. All reports should reach me before the 5th of the month.

I urge each of you to contact your Section Officials and take an active part in our Section activities. Your support will be welcomed.

WHAT IS TROPOSCATTER

Over the past few years we have been hearing about Troposcatter. This is always in connection with microwaves and for most hams is beyond the realms of possibility.

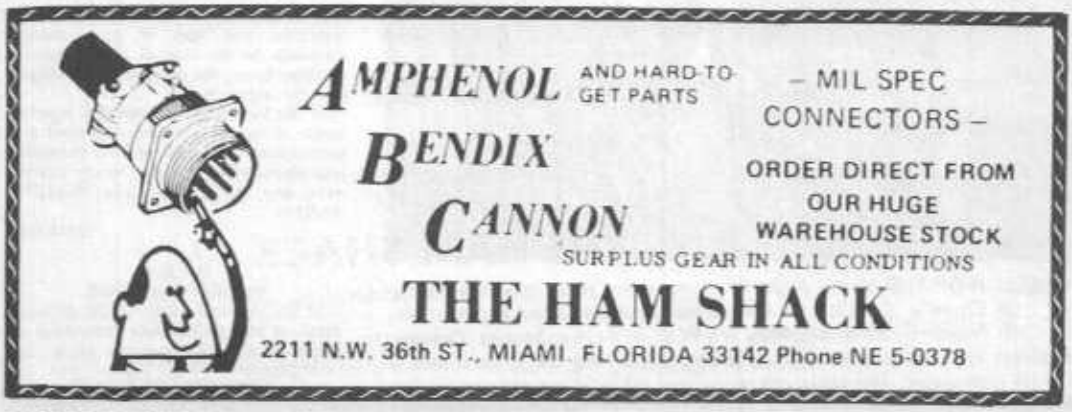
The army is using troposcatter so a few words on follow, that I hope will be enlightening. Nobody knows for sure just what happens but be enlightening. Nobody knows for sure just what happens but there have been three theories to date — all that seem possible. But first what do we mean by troposcatter and, second, what does it do? Actually this should be spelled out as "tropospheric forward scatter" and it is a term used to explain usable microwave radio signals over distances well beyond the line of sight.

As far as I am concerned, this is a brute force system of communications where gigantic antenna systems that look like big billboards are fed with fantastic powers. There are advantages and disadvantages. The big advantage is that the communications is exceedingly reliable at all times. It is virtually immune to jamming because of the narrowbeam of both antenna. I forgot to tell you that this is strictly fixed point-to-point communications and is not usable in portable or mobile work.

Troposphere is that layer of stuff that is close to the earth and is below the stratosphere which is between the ionosphere and the troposphere. It is felt by some that the scatter takes place in much the same way as the longer wave skip. However, in this case, it is not bent back to earth but is scattered by being reflected. In the normal skip the signal is quite strong but in troposcatter it is very weak for the amount of power that is used.

Possibly of more interest to most of us is the phenomenon of back scatter. Did you ever hear someone on 20 meters that you know is much too close for even 1 hop skip and too far for ground wave even at the maximum power? If you turn your beam in his direction, you lose him. This is back scatter over a 1 hop path and back to you. It can be relected by building corners, irregular ground, the side of a mountain, and many other things. The signal is usually quite weak and sometimes accompanied by flutter and fade.

(W8QUR—Ham Shack Gossip)



ARMY MARS

By Kris Krysiak A4FCP

We hope that all of you have survived the Holiday Season and that by now you all have your new schedule on the frequency and time change that goes into effect on the first of February. Be sure to keep it handy so that you will know when and where to check in. This will prove to be a good system once all members get used to it. Times given are local time NOT zulu time.

Heard that Tomi, wife of Bob AA4JJZ had a bad spell and had to go to the hospital. At this writing we have learned that she is home and feeling a bit better. We also lost a member when Martin AA4VGB from Lakeland passed away. Joe AD4TZI is heard on the nets and sounds real chipper. Shipwreck is on and giving his usual remarks, keep it up, as we need some of your support.

We want to welcome the new members that were assigned to the net, AA4MB, Bob, A4DNM, Charles, A4VMN, Morton. We note that the new NCS roster has some new members on it. Please, give them all the help and cooperation that you can as it is a chore to a new member to take a net. Ruth A4BWR had a bit to say about that on one of the "A" nets. She is right, so please take heed. As for the net controls, be sure that you give an OUT once in awhile, so that someone can check in. Do not worry about getting comments from everyone, after all these are training nets, not . . . a rag chewers net.

Looks like the "J" net will be a big one very soon, as we gathered from the comments of our VHF coordinator, with the repeaters that are in the make. It could be that this will be a big boom as far as the VHF nets are concerned.

SETTING IN ON THE League Official meeting in Augusta, Georgia, were W4YPX, W1NJM, K4KQ, K4SJH, W4BTM, W4AGI and W4RZL. Also present but not in the photo were: W4RKH, W4MQQ, WA4WQU, W4WLG, WA4VWV and WB6UTC/4. Many common problems were discussed during the day long session. —photo by W4RKH

NEW TOWER

E-Z Way Products, Inc., Tampa, Florida tower manufacturer, introduces a NEW unique tower model . . . The 4300 Series . . .

This tower is specifically designed for the mobile two-way communications and home consumer markets. When guyer it can be erected to 200 feet. Its popularity is due to the new unique E-Z coupling. This simple patented attachment allows a drastic reduction of on site tower assembly time. Its handy size and simplicity lends itself to the consumer over-the-counter market. Only three bolts are used to attach two sections together.

The tower sections measure 13 inches on a face and are 7½ feet long. A 100 foot tower (14 sections) can easily be transported in the rear of a station wagon.

HAMS IN SPACE

SKIP correspondent Roy Durso K4DJN in Cape Kennedy informs us that according to John McLeaish of NASA, there are two licensed radio amateurs in the NASA astronaut corps. They are Anthony W. England, W5RAP and Dr. Owen K. Garriet, W5LFL, both of Houston.

If you should hear a space shot in the near future with the module commander calling "CQ DX", it just night be one of these two gents hamming it up.

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FLORIDA FAA NET 7260
By George Cooper W4EH

The FAA net which meets on Sundays at 1500GMT 1000E 7260 KHz invites other members of the FAA who may not be aware of this net to join our ranks.

Net control station is W4JVA Paul Colby, Ormond Beach, Fla. The net would welcome new members. So join our ranks, meet some of your old friends and a chance to make many new friends.

73,

ES CU 7260KHZ.

ST. PETE 7265 NET
By Rick WB4JRV

Needless to say, everyone had a wonderful time during the holiday season. Things have returned to normal, and for most of us its back to work or school.

Dave, WB4LFP, received a HW-100 and built it very quickly. We hope to hear him on the net with his new rig soon.

Randy, WA1GZV 4, spent some time in St. Pete with Gary, WB4IHI, one of our net managers.

Jim, WB4IME, our other net manager has been busy with his job these last few Sundays, and its good to hear him back on the net.

We're still looking for more members. Many of our friends have met the two consecutive check-ins requirement, and we hope they will join soon by sending a formal message to either of the two net managers.

All the members hope to meet each other at the hamboree. We'll stop in and say hi to Andy, at the Skip booth.

We held four meetings in December with a QNI of 46, an avg. of 11.5; and a QTC of 22, an avg. of 5.5. All amateurs are welcome to our meetings, every Sunday morning at 11:00 local time on 7265 kc.

73 and hope to CU on the net.

GATOR NET

Gator All Florida CW Traffic Net meets daily at 8:30 AM on 7115 Khz. When the skip is long, a condition that has not occurred since summertime, the net moves to 3651Khz. Tom K4COO is net manager.

December was a good month with increased attendance and business. According to our "Roger Babson" Reg W4ILE, who compiled statistics for the past four years, Net attendance for 1969 was up more than 5 per cent over 1968. Better yet was the increase of 29 per cent in traffic over 1968, and this was the highest of the past four years. Improvement in 1969 began after the Net Frequency was moved last March to 40 meters.

Signals from way up Nawth in Florida Pan Handle are excellent way down here in the Tropics. Surely would like to hear more of them.

73

Rij Arnold W4EHW
Asst. Mgr.

TROPICAL PHONE NET
Ken W4SMK

The check ins and traffic total were up quite a bit this past month due to the usual holiday traffic. The TPTN frequency is now 3940 KHz as reported in Skip last month, and so far has proved to be satisfactory. All aest Fla. 75 meter nets now meet on 3940 KHz, and anyone needing E. Fla. contacts should look here first.

The following stations have been added to the roll call: W4BNM, Art in St. Pete, WA4CPQ, Chris cn Tampa, K4GCC, John in Merritt Island, WB4HTJ, Steve in Tampa, W4KGJ, John (our SCM) in Miami, W4KQR, Doug in St. Pete, and a big welcome to you all. Please check in as often as possible and don't be bashful at taking an NCS job if asked.

All monthly traffic reports now go to our new SCM John Porter, W4KGJ, in South Miami. Please send them ASAP after the first of each month by mail or radiogram. All net controls send your reports to WB4FLW likewise.

The TPTN will be participating in the Simulated Emergency Test (Jan. 24-25), but plans are incomplete at this time. The net will probably hold an extra long session at the regular time in order to help clear SET traffic.

We understand that Walt, K4VNA in Daytona Beach has been in the hospital and hope he is back with us by the time you read this.

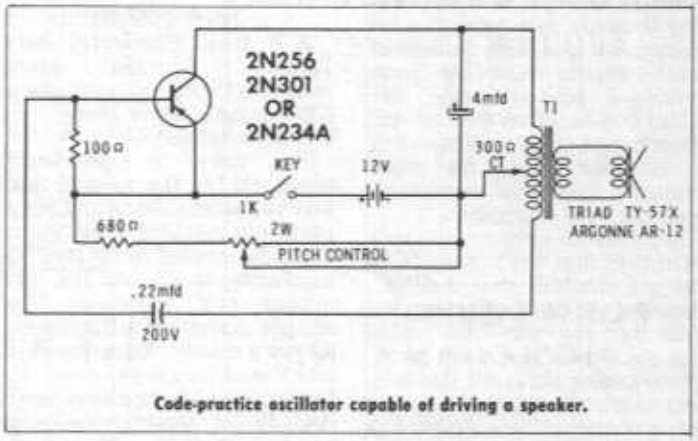
WB4JHV, Lee from Ft. Myers has been quite active on the net and has been liason with QFN which is helpful.

FLORIDA MIDDAY TRAFFIC NET
By Herb, W4LSR

My salute to the proof readers of Florida Skip, whoever they may be. My rather uninteresting column in the January issue came alive when they changed the first letter in the word "gathering" to the letter *f* . . . . . .

A few words to help plug a new net. The St. Pete 7265 fills the gap in our week by coming on at 1100 EST every Sunday, the one day of the week our net is dark. The young voices, full of enthusiasm, give me a lift and I hope this paragraph gives them one. Good going.

Good to hear the other Herb, K4DAX back on the net again. Hope you can stay awhile this time Herb.



Code-practice oscillator capable of driving a speaker.

W4YXG OF TITUSVILLE held an antenna party. Getting in on the act were K4SJC, WN4LOE, WB4GCS and WB4KUZ. At last report the beams, and tower were up and working fine. —photo via K4ENW

TOP TWENTY TRAFFIC TAKERS

Each month we are happy to list the top twenty traffic takers in Florida. Next month let's see your call in this column.

1.	WA4SCK	875 BPL	11.	W4EHW	116
2.	W4FPC	328	12.	WB4IER	103
3.	WA4FGH	261	13.	W4DVO	92
4.	WB4AIW	183	14.	W8BZY/4	72
5.	WB4HJV	177 BPL	15.	W4NGR	71
6.	K4GJ	152	16.	K4DAX	70
7.	W4FP	151	17.	W4SMK	64
8.	WB4HJW	148	18.	K4HS	60
9.	W4SDR	127	19.	W4KRC	60
10.	WA4HED	118	20.	WA4FJA	56

Please send your traffic totals to your SCM by 1st of the month.

TRAFFIC HOUNDS

NET	QNI	QTC	Avg. QNI	Avg. QTC	Sessions
FMTN	858	529	31.8	19.2	27
QFN	558	533	9.46	9.03	59
FAST	949	221	35.2	8.2	27
GN	250	238	8.0	7.7	31
FPTN	403	151	15.5	5.8	26
TPTN	459	141	18.4	5.61	25
7265 Net	46	22	11.5	5.5	4

QNC

Why are you younger fellows forever wanting to change the net procedures? Take it from one who learned the hard way; when you get drafted and for a pass time in the service you get in a poker game and you try to change the rules you end up with a "fat lip". Tiz a shame that a NCS can't pass along a "fat lip" to a few of you to teach you a lesson before you have to it the painful way!

ONYX

To know when to be generous and when firm — this is wisdom.

The best place to find a helping hand, is at the end of your arm.

Live each day so as to shake hands with yourself every night.

ALL SET-UP FOR the Apollo XI moonshot was Geo. Davidson, K4ENW of Titusville. George had gear on 145.5 local net, CB rig on Channel 1, HW-12 on 75 SSB, BC and TV in operation. Power from vans power system 92 Ah battery with alternator "KLUGED" and spare battery also 92 Ah. 115 v.a.c. was used via a 300-watt inverter. Needless to say, K4ENW will be ready for the first MARS (space) shot. -photo via K4ENW

WIRING COLOR CODE

It is usually a Grade-A task to trace the rat's nest of wiring in the average commercial piece of gear--and even more so in a ham-built receiver or transmitter. Most hams do not know that there is a standard color code for wiring, as follows:

Color	Circuit Name
Black	Grounds, grounded elements and returns
Brown	Heaters or filaments, off ground
Red	Power Supply B plus
Orange	Screen Grids
Yellow	Cathodes
Green	Control Grids
Blue	Plates
Violet	Not Used
Gray	A.C. Power Lines
White	Above or below ground returns, AVC, etc.

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MEET THE GOLDCOASTERS

Ray Guy, W4AZ
President

This epic is the cosmos of sparkling journalism was contributed to tell you about a radio club the like of which there just ain't any, positively. Your astonishingly gifted author was stimulated to this effort by the gorgeous Kayla Bloom, until recently Editor of 73 magazine. The entire membership of the Goldcoasters fell madly in love with this gal but it was for naught. Doc Hale, K4MWS, wooed and wed our gal, W1EMV, brought his blushing bride to a meeting, and defied the dntire membership to fight him. Since the Goldcoasters consists mostly of retired, paunchy old coots with fine heads of skin, and survived thus far by being discreet, the situation was resolved by everyone kissing the bride and congratulating the dashing, debonair groom.

The GOLDCOASTERS congealed from plasma about six years ago but it was never organized, praise be to Allah! It is a unique group of about 300 durable, sophisticated, mostly retired, refugees from amateur and professional radio, television, etc., the like of which has probably never been seen. A prize collection of suave, devious, handsome, witty, charming, debonair, devil-may care rascals, they labor in no vineyard. Their cumulative number of yards experience in radio totes up to about 10,000.

The membership includes two-star retired Generals, Naval Captains, Presidents of Corporations, and of great Professional Societies, the Clergy distinguished scientists, etc., but the only requirement for membership be that one be a fine, down-to-earth, good egg, who left his ego behind when he retired, and is now dedicated to gregarious fun.

The GOLDCOASTER has no Constitution of Bylaws, dues, committees, panels, nominations, elections, projects, noble purpose, work in any of its vulgar forms, reports, speeches, contests, membership requirements, affiliations, formalities. The President, and Secretary, Sim Heston, were never officially nominated or elected, and hold on to their rackets by chicanery and obfuscation. Both are accomplished and experienced thieves highly skilled in the art of sophisticated embezzlement.

THE LAKE AMATEUR Radio Association took a trip to visit the Wildwood EOC for Civil Defense. Shown here is Reid Martin, W4VDY listening in on a Drake TR-4 transceiver. The EOC is manned weekdays by Mack Britton W4DVR. It is equipped for all amateur and commercial (Police, FHP, Fire, etc.) bands, c.w., SSB or RTTY. If passing through Wildwood stop in for a cup of coffee with the gang. (photo via WA4TJS)

GOLDCOASTER meetings are held at luncheons at THE CAPTAINS TABLE, 11:30 a.m. at Deerfield Beach, twice monthly in the winter and every three or four weeks at other times. A choice of two different luncheon meals is served for $2.50, including gratuity. Club expenses are met by mailing the President clams when the mattress has no more lumps, about every 18 months. No tickee, no laundly. Membership in the Goldcoasters covers 41 states and four foreign countries. Some members have never attended a meeting and a meeting and probably never will, but enjoy it by osmosis, through the Newsletter, QRN, which has been awarded four prizes by the ARNS. They mear of us by radio, send three clams, and BINGO! they are Goldcoasters.

Free Calendars

Each year as a public service, FLORIDA SKIP sends its subscribers a handy dandy five color calendar. We now have 100 on hand for mailing. All we ask is that you send a self addressed stamped envelope, any size to Box 501, Miami Springs, Fla. 33166 and yours will be returned promptly. We also have 500 single card type 1970 calendars printed in green and red on high gloss stock paper. Both calendars have all national holidays marked. Don't forget the SASE please.

SPEED COMMUNICATIONS

The communications link set up for the Birthplace of Speed's Motor Reunion, Daytona Beach, on Nov. 27th til Nov. 29th went in great style. Operating the base station on Thanksgiving day was Clyde W4SDR, while Dave WB4GUH had to suffer it out on the beach watching the Dune buggys race.

On Friday Mark WB4MDD manned the base while Ed WB4OKH operated a remote station located at the Ormond Beach Garage.

Saturday Bill K4GJ and Marge K4RNS operated the base station and Fred WB4BPO manned the garage station. In the afternoon two mobile units were moved on the beach to give a communication link to the beach sprints. Dave WB4HQX was at the starting line while Dave WB4GUH was at the finish line.

All went smoothly with very little difficulty and the Antique Car Assn. was very pleased with the results.

(WA4OQX Ground Wave Ed.)

– COMING EVENTS –

Jan. 24–25
National S.E.T.
Mar. 14
Broward AUCTIONFEST
April 4–5
Florida QSO Party
May 23-24
Orlando Hamfest
May 23-24 – FM Convention, Orlando (Jamaica Inn)

Send us your upcoming events.

BREVARD REPEATER ASSOCIATION

Repeater update projects and convention plans are underway in this report from BRA Secretary, John Smith, W4GJB.

The improvements include greater transmitter output, increased received sensitivity, more favorable antenna patterns, improved control, and automatic logging and identification.

The 1970 FM National Convention under SERA approval and sponsorship is scheduled for 23 & 24 May at the Jamaica 24 May at the Jamaica Inn, Orlando, FL.

John also writes of sales ethics in the BRA Newsletter: — "If I may be permitted an editorial liberty, I would like to make a few comments with regard to the sale of used f-m gear to your fellow hams and to others.

When selling, or attempting to sell a piece of gear, be honest about it's condition, problems, history, etc. There is nothing more frustrating to a buyer than to purchase a piece of gear claimed to be 'in working condition', and then find out that extensive and sometimes expensive repairs are necessary. The seller usually knows the operational status of the gear. If there is a problem, attempt to rectify it before the sale, or if this is not possible, at least inform the prospective buyer. In that way, he will have the opportunity to make the decision. Do Unto Others! As far as the 'others' are concerned, do not resell or sell f-m gear back into commercial service. This is the surest way to have the supply of late model equipment shut-off. Most manufacturers have very strict policies in this regard. They manufacturers have very strict policies in this regard. They would rather destroy this equipment than to see it go back into commercial service. This has been done, with tons of gear multilated and buried that could have been available to the ham market. The choice is yours."

(VIA MARS SCOPE)

"To make girl tender . . . necessary to soak her in money!"

"When man 60 marry girl 25 . . . like buying book for someone else to read!"

All of us make footprints on the sands of time. Some leave the impression of a great sole — others just the mark of a heel.

Florida SKIP DIRECTORY

Each month you will find the following listings. Keep it handy. ARRL Officials are listed free. Florida Nets are listed free upon notification from net manager. Clubs listed for $12.00 per year. (Free to clubs taking box ads elsewhere.) Any individual amateur may be listed for $5.00 a year. (The ones who really care.) Let's fill up this page!

ARRL LISTINGS

Director, S.E. Division
H. DALE STRIETER, W4DQS
928 Trinidad
Cocoa Beach, Fla. 32931

Vice Director, S.E. Division
CHARLES BOLVIN, K4KQ
2210 S.W. 27th Lane
Miami, Florida 33133

SCM, E. Fla.
JOHN F. PORTER, W4KGJ
P.O. Box 7297
Miami, Fla. 33155

SCM West Florida
FRANK M. BUTLER, Jr. W4RKH
323 Elliott Rd., S.E.
Ft. Walton Beach, Fla. 32548

SEC East Florida
ANDY CLARK, W4IYT
41 Lenape Drive
Miami Springs, Fla. 33166

SEC West Florida
G.D. McKECHNIE, W4IKB
1000 N. 6th Street
Chipley, Florida 32428

Asst. SEC East Florida
KEN STEWART W4SMK
2267 Maple Ave.
Ft. Myers, Fla. 33901

NET LISTINGS

QFN (All Florida)
7:00 p.m., and
1000 p.m. kc. daily 3651 kc.
Net Mgrs.: WB4HJW

FSBA Sundays
5 p.m. on 3940 kc.

FSBEN Wednesday
7:30 p.m. on 3940 kc.

KNIGHTS OF KILOCYCLE, Sundays
7:00 a.m. on 3910 kc.

GATOR NET (GN)
Daily 8 30 a.m. on 7115 kc.
Net manager: K4COO

TROPICAL PHONE TRAFFIC NET (TPTN)
Daily except Sun., 5 p.m. on 3940 kc.
Net Manager: WB4FLW

FLA. AMATEUR SIDEBAND TRAFFIC NET
(FAST) Daily except Sat.
6 p.m. on 3940 kc.
Net Manager: WA4SFF

WEST FLORIDA PHONE NET (WFPN)
6 p.m. on 3957 kc. (2300Z)
Net Manager W4MQQ

FLA. PHONE TRAFFIC NET Mon. thru Sat.,
7 a.m. on 3940 kc. Net Mgr: W4NGR

FLA. MIDDAY TRAFFIC NET
Daily except Sun. at 12 noon
On 7254 kc. Net. Mar. W4SDR

NOVICE HURRICANE NET (NHN) Sat. & Sun.
2:30 p.m. on 7165 kc.
Net Manager: WN4NCH

OKALOOSA CO. EMERGENCY NET
Wed. 0130 GMT, 146-940 FM
Net Manager: WB4EQU

ST. PETE 7265 NET
Sundays, 11:00 a.m. EST
7265 kHz
Managers: WB4IHI/ WB4IME

GOLD COAST EMERGENCY NET
6 Mtrs. 50.445 mc Mon. 2000 local
2 Mtrs. 145.23 mc Tues. 2000 local
WB4CKY, EC Broward Co., Mgr.

CLUB LISTING

BROWARD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB W4AB
2nd Wed. of month, 7:30 p.m.
Broward County Courthouse
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8673
Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33310
More info. call 522-2606, 522-5674

LAKE AMATEUR RADIO ASSN., INC., W4YKY
Meets each Thurs., 8 p.m., EST
Clubhouse, Springdale Ave., Bassville Pk., between Leesburg and Tavares, Florida
Mail to Sec., 1270 Sheridan Rd, Mount Dora, Fla. 32757
Phone: 383-4548

HILLSBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC. WA4GJJ
Meets 4th Tuesday, 7:30 P.M.
Odd Fellows Temple
6220 Nebraska Ave, Tampa, Fl a.
Mail to: 12112 N. Edison Ave.(33612)
Visitors always welcome

DADE RADIO CLUB, INC.
(W4NVU) 1st & 3rd Tuesday.
Museum of Science 8 p.m.
3280 So. Miami Avenue
Miami, Florida
Mailing address: P.O. Box 73
Biscayne Annex
Miami, Florida 33152

NORTH FLORIDA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY W4IZ
2nd Thursday. 7:30 P.M.
Duval CD Headquarters
107 Market Street
Jacksonville, Fla. 32202

ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, Inc. W4GAC
Meetings: 1st Friday
Azalea Community Center
1400 — 72nd St., No.
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4026
For information phone:
345-0464 or 826-4294

ORLANDO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
3rd Wed., 8:00 p.m.,
First Federal Savings & Loan on Edgewater Drive. Mailing Address: Box 13267, Orlando, Fla. 32809
2 Meter Net — 145,350 kHz
Mon. thru Thur. 7 p.m.
More info: call 644-9896

FLORIDORA YLs (W4FE)
All licensed Florida YLs invited to join.
Mailing Address:
W4LKM, Annette Thompson
1401 S.W. 14th Court
Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33312
Nets: Tues., 1400Z on 3933

GAINESVILLE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, K4DPZ 1st Tues. 8:00 pm, Alachua CD Headquarters Basement, County Court House. Mailing Address: 1421 SW 13th Ave., Gainesville, Fla. 32601

TAMPA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. W4DUG
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Mondays
7:30 p.m.
Club House: Davis Islands, Columbus & Barbados
Mailing Address: 943 Cimmeron Ave., Tampa, Fla. 33603

SARASOTA AMATEUR RADIO ASSN. INC.
Meets 3rd Tuesday of each month
8 p.m.
At Sarasota Federal (S. Gate Branch)
Club Call W4IE in memory of Charlie Service

SOUTH MIAMI RADIO CLUB, Inc. K4JVA
1st and 3rd Fri., 8 p.m.
Coral Gables Police Station
285 Aragon Avenue
More info call:
446-2478 or 667-4564

DAYTONA BEACH AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC.
K4BV
Meets 3rd Mon. each month
American Red Cross Bldg.
800 Volusia Ave.
Mail: P.O. Box 1608
Daytona Beach, Fla. 32015

WHY ADHERE TO A STANDARD PHONETIC ALPHABET?

Anyone listening to our phone traffic nets can hear a vast conglomerate of phonetics from the large majority of traffic stations. No doubt it has not been evident to many amateurs why a common standardized phonetic alphabet is far preferable to using a mixture of old obsolete phonetics plus individually devised phonetics.

The principal reason for adhering to a nationally standardized phonetic alaphabet is mainly because such an alphabet, used by all stations, is readily recognized by all receiving stations, domestic and foreign, what employ same themselves. Many times odd phonetics are misinterpreted by the receiving stations because they do not bring to mind a familiar letter of the alphabet.

It is urged that we all employ the current standard international phonetic alphabet as used today by all commercial and military services as well as now recommended by ARRL for amateur use.

Although this phonetic alphabet is today available from many sources, it is given below for your convenience.

A — Alpha	N — November
B — Bravo	O — Oscar
C — Charlie	P — Papa
D — Delta	Q — Quebec
E — Echo	R — Romeo
F — Foxtrot	S — Sierra
G — Golf	T — Tango
H — Hotel	U — Uniform
I — India	V — Victor
J — Juliett	W — Whiskey
K — Kilo	X — Xray
L — Lima	Y — Yankee
M — Mike	Z — Zulu

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Galaxy V Mark II	249.00
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HT-40	40.00
HT-37	179.00
SX-111	109.00
SX-146 and 500kc Filter	189.00
SX-117	149.00
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HQ100C	99.00
HQ110C	99.00
HQ150	125.00
HQ170C	129.00
HQ180C w/speaker	199.00
HQ200	195.00
HQ170A w/noise blank	149.00
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HW 12 w/DC	99.00
HW 32 w/DC	109.00
HA 14 Linear w/p.s.	179.00
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HW 10 6 Meter	99.00
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T-150	69.00
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HE-144	59.00
HE 35A	39.00
HE 61 VFO	9.95
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NC 270	89.00
NCX-3 w/AC-DC	239.00
NCX-3 w/AC	199.00

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FOR SALE: QST, 1950 thru 1969, missing June '64 and March '65; CQ, 1950 thru 1961. Best offer, no shipping. Bob Sturnan W4SOV, 10500 SW 96 Terr., Miami, Fla., Fone 274-0676.

FOR SALE: NW-100 with power supply and manuals. Both units in mint condition. Less than 30 hours operating time on each unit. Will not sell separate, $275. C. R. Drescher — K4HS, 3520 Monica Parkway, Sarasota, Fla. 33580, Fone 955-6829.

FOR SALE: TR-4 plus AC and DC power supplies from the estate of W4TJD $550 or make offer. Paul Blair W4LLL, 5223 - 5th St. Circle W, BBradenton, Fla. 33505.

FOR SALE: 50 foot custom-made tower, bolt together. Brand new, self-supporting, $295 or best offer. Jim Lauritson K4FQP, 3204 W. Deborah Ave., St. Petersburg Beach, Fla. 33706.

FOR SALE: Drake TR4-AC-DC-Spkr, excellent $575; Swan 350-AC-Spkr, VOX and xtal cal, $350. Harry E. Cudney, Jr. K4CAA, 1541 NE 11 St., Homestead, Fla. 33030, Fone 248-1712.

FOR SALE: CE-20A exciter with 200 V PEP, HB Linear, fine for HF Mars Nets. $100. SB-610 Console $60.00. Heath Tower $30. SB-301 w filters and 6&2 converters $280. Clegg 99'er $69. RTTY gear 2 TU units, one for transceiver passbands, HW-18 with HP-23A excellent for CAP or HF Mars. $125.00. Power supplies and many other parts. Donald J. McKenzie WA4ZRX, 6420 - 5th Ave., N., St. Petersburg, Fla. 33710, Fone 345-3407.

FOR SALE: Heavy duty, galvanized, E'Z way 40 foot crank up, tilt over tower with CDR rotator, indicator, control wire together with new Cushcraft 5 element 15 meter wide spaced beam. A real DX getter, mounting post too if you remove. Leaving state. First $100.00 takes, cash and carry. Hal Hart, 5280 SW 94th Ave., Cooper City, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33314 Phone 581-1772.

FROM ESTATE OF W4AZK. Many excellent units of test equipment, commercial speakers and other items. Write for list. Bargain prices. Mrs. Opal B. Traer, P.O. Box 215, Naples, Fla. 33940.

FOR SALE: Custom made, heavy duty self-supporting 60' tower in 10' sections. Never used. Bolt ogether legs. $295. Jim Lauritsen K4FQP, 3204 W. Deborah Ave., St. Petersburg Beach, Fla. 33706, Fone 360-8989.

FOR SALE National model NCX-D mobile power supply, instruction manual, 21-ft. of Beldon 8214 cable; Hallicrafters receiver; Alco field indicator. First $60 takes all. Have new car — quitting mobile. Henry Miller, W4VGJ, P.O. Box 1131, New Port Richey, Fla., Fone 846-1972.

FOR SALE: HW-29A sixer and 5-element Cushcraft beam $40. HiGain 6 and 2 meter ground plane $15. All good. Bob Cole, K4LZW, 901 Homewood Drive, Brandon, Fla. 33511, Fone 689-2400.

FOR SALE: BC-779 with power supply in good condition $40. HP Model No. 715A klystron power supply, new condition $150, 6146s $1.50, 6298s $1.75, Klinesmitt TT 76 Tape Punch and printer $175, DX-20 as is $30, Webcor stereo recorder $60. Norman Gerber W4ZRT, 860 NE 81 St., Miami, Fla. 33138

WANTED: Novice band crystals. I am advisor for new electronics explorers post in Hollywood. Have all equipment for club station except crystals. Robert Patten W4OZF, 2311 W. Nassau Dr., Miramar, Fla. 33023, Fone 981-2722.

WANTED: Drake 2-kw linear. Will trade Glaspar 12-ft. boat with 10 HP Johnson motor, trailer, cars, carlocks at value of $400 and pay difference. F. W. Borton W4ZF, 7725 NE 8th Avenue, Miami, Fla., Fone PL 7-1064.

FOR SALE: Collins MP-1 mobile power supply with 35 ID KWM-2 mobile mount, $135; Les Logan Speed-X semiautomatic hi-speed key model 515, $3.00; No. 8 General Hardware Pawood metal punches, 3/64", 1/16", 1-3 16", 1-1/4", 1-5/16", $2.50; Set of Millen Falls No. 1550 1/4" machine made steel number punches 0 to 9, $3.00; 2 ea 0-200 ma and 1 ea 0-100 ma meters, mounted in small metal boxes, $1.50 each. W. Bickmeyer, K4NI, 137 Bahama Blvd., Cocoa Beach, Florida 32931.

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Heath SB-401 xmtr., excellent condx., $250 or trade for HW-100 with AC power supply also in excellent condx. Hallicrafters SX-100 rcvr in good condx. for $75. Steven Lee WB4JDA, 3430 Simca Drive, W., Jacksonville, Fla. 32211, Fone 744-6065.

FOR SALE: Surplus items Model 19 steel table excellent $50.00. Unused 3BPI REC 29 TTY Rectifier $15.00. TTY Tape Puller w/small 110v AC motor in reel pedestal TT106 U includes reel $8.50. Fil Xfmr w two 6.3 volt 2A winding series for 12 V, $1.50. Keyer KY-65 ARA 26 has plastic code wheel for your call TTY ID $4.95 excellent. All FOB Tampa. Ralph F. Coady W4BMI, 2903 Bay View Ave., Tampa, Fla. 33611.

FOR SALE: Model 19 Teletype, consisting of page printer, keyboard, tape perforator, and Model 14 transmitter distributor, character counter, with 0.8 ampere 120-volt rectifier power supply mounted on its metal table. With all plugs, wiring and receptacles in good working order, $100 FOB Punta Gorda, Florida. Or will swap for good audio generator or RF Signal generator or what have you of equivalent value. William J. Dayton W4BZO, 47 Tropicana Dr., Punta Gorda, Fla. 33950

FOR SALE: Hallicrafters SX-101 Mk III receiver $100. Can not ship. John Munro WB4BAF, 3905 Bayview Ave., Tampa, Fla. 33611, Fone 833-1554.

FOR SALE OR TRADE: SX-100 with xtal calibrator and matching speaker. Works fb $65. Heath Sixer with mike, xtals and ground plane antenna, $30. Need tower and rotor. Joe Governale WB4KPK 2813 16th St., Tampa, Fla. 33605, Fone 242-2651

FOR SALE: HA-460 transceiver for 6 meters in mint condition; also HE-50A transceiver with HE-62 VFO for mobile or home use on 10 meters voice; also a good L.C. Smith typewriter for fast CW ops. All offers considered. Bob Sturgis, WB4RYJ, 310 Noel Road, Orange Park, Fla. 32073

FOR SALE: Hallicrafters SX-130 rcvr, $100; National NC-155 rcvr $75; Hallicrafters HT-37 transmitter, needs minor repair, $75. Frank Monaco WB4EQP, 13921 NW 2 Ave., Miami, Fla. 33168.

FOR SALE: Teletype — Parts for all models. Machines: models 14 thru 35. Manuals and bulletins. TYPETRONICS, Box 8873, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33310. Fred, W4NYF, call 305-583-1340 evenings.

FOR SALE: Hammarlund HQ-180C $240.00 Bendix BC-639A Tunable from 95-163 Mhz $115.00 both in top condition. Regench Xtal controlled TM H-1 150-170 Mhz -35.00. A. Schiff W4UYJ, 1910 SW 7th Ave. Miami, FL 33129 Phone FR3-5004.

FOR SALE: Mini Products Model B-24 6 thru 20 meter beam. Hustler model 4-BTV. Both like new condition. Write Don Bearce W4SUH, 2801 L-715 Bahia Vista St., Sarasota, Fla. 33580.

WANTED: HT-32, HT-37 or HT-32 linear. Must be working and in good condition. Have Globe chief xmtr, 90 watts $30.00. Ricky Maseda, WA4WEB, 925 - 93rd Ave., Tampa, Fla. 33612 Phone 932-7716.

AUCTIONFEST "The old reliable — Saturday March 14th. Chaminade High School, Hollywood, Florida. Doors open 8 a.m. Retail tables. Everyone welcome. See March SKIP for Road Map. W4NYF, Chairman, BARC Sponsor.

FOR SALE: Bandspaner mobile whip with coils for 75, 40, 20 and 15 meters, tilt-over top section, body mount, heavy duty spring. Coax and coax connector. $30.00. LM frequency meter with supply $15.00. COLLINS 75A3, very clean and completely overhauled $190.00. All FOB. Old QSTs CQs and 73s, ten cents each, no ship. Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami FL 33166 Phone (305) 888-3874.

NEED CODE PRACTICE?
Can give instruction and practice — privately or to groups at various code speeds up to 25 wpm on straight key, or to 35 wpm on bug — days or evenings. Phone 666-7380 Monday thru Friday evenings only. Blake Brownrigg, 4095 Bonita Ave., Coconut Grove, Fla. 33133 (ex pro opr with first class commercial license.)

The only records we would like to break are some the neighbor plays every night.

A gentleman is a man who holds the door open for the wife while she carries in a load of groceries.

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federal communications commission

The Federal Communications Commission and the Director of Telecommunications Management have jointly approved the following system of emergency communication priorities for telephone and telegraph facilities. These are the priorities listed in their order of precedence:

(1) Flash Emergency — Messages having the highest priority and limited to domestic and foreign government agencies for messages and calls "essential to national survival".

(2) Immediate Emergency — Second priority messages. Applies to critical security, diplomatic, civil defense activities, civil disasters, and vital information affecting aircraft, spacecraft, or missile operations.

(3) Priority Emergency — Messages and calls which require prompt completion, including defense, diplomatic, intelligence, civil defense, civil emergency data, messages concerning major civilian aircraft accidents, and news media information on national widespread disasters.

(W6DDB LERC-Bulletin)

The teacher is one who makes two ideas grow where only one grew before.

ANTENNA INCOGNITO

You may not be able to tell a book by its cover, but at least you can tell that it's a book. In the old days (vis., several years ago) you could look at that conglomeration of wires and safely call it an antenna. Nowadays only a specialist can infallibly recognize an antenna as an antenna.

The airlines are already cutting holes in various parts of the airframe and using them as slot antennas for some of the navigational equipment. They have taken the top section of the vertical fin on some craft and by insulating it from the bottom and feeding it with a glorified match box they cover 2-18 mc for HF communication.

Don't be surprised some week to see a rework on the cabin windows. Someone is going to awaken to the possibility that with some engineering the cabin windows can be used as aperture antennas. With the proper spacing and phasing they have a natural for a beam for fore and aft communications on VHF.

ONYX

HERE IS THE BETTER half of the Kramer Klan, Angie, WB4JJH of Miami. Angie works mostly c.w. with her DX-60 and is now a member of the Floridora Girls. Be sure to read FROM NOVICE TO GENERAL by OM Regis, W4ILE.

NOVICE TO GENERAL

By Regis K. Kramer
W4ILE

It all began on St. Valentine Day, February 14, 1969. Amid the "hearts and flowers", the XYL decided she wanted to be a GENERAL. Little did I realize what was in store for me. Eight months and 40 states ago she flowed with delight when the postman brought that precious piece of paper, the Novice ticket. Now there was an air of determination — that is, until we opened up the License Manual for a squint at the questions. This, for the time being, was to be my number one problem — teaching her some of the fundamentals while guarding against destroying her confidence, that she COULD do it. My second problem was keeping MYSELF believing she could do it! So we kept "plugging" away. Of course she eased me into a few household chores — time for studying you know — and at one point she mentioned the Extra Class and a Commercial ticket — I was doing so well around the house.

So, while I was doing dishes, missing good old QFN and 4RN, she was copying W1AW. I kind of remedied this situation by taping W1AW at various speed levels, along with tapes of pages 19, 44, 47 and 48 of "Learning the Radiotelegraph Code".

After a few weeks of "wandering" around, theory-wise, we obtained the latest edition (fifth) of "Elements of Radio" of "Elements of Radio" (Prentice & Hall — $8.00). We pushed steadily onward — thru Part I, 29 chapters, taking turns reading and rereading — discussing, as we went along. Progressing quite satisfactorily, she answered questions, worked the problems, and drew the schematics. This all went into a dime store spiral note notebook and consumed approximately two months of daily work sessions.

The questions and answers from the ARRL License Manual were typed up on 4 by 6 inch index cards (we used 3 x 5 for the Novice). Questions on one side, answers on the other. She snapped a rubber band around her little packet of cards and they usually accompanied her, just in case there was time to dwell on them. Psychologically, I do believe the Q and A are a little easier to grasp when presented in this fashion — it appears to help a persons ability to concentrate.

The multiple choice questions in Ameco's Amateur Radio Theory Course, were helpful in checking on theory progress.

Thursday, May 29, was tagged on the calendar as EXAM day. This was the last week before start of school vacation.

We had noticed the Posi-Check-s advertised in QST and thought we would give them a try. These proved to be well worth the cost of $3.00. They were especially valuable in presenting a formula, for instance, with its associated problems in their many variations. We recommend the Posi-Check's as an excellent preparation.

The last three weeks were spent with the Q and A cards, the Post-Checks and a "homebrew, 7 cnch reel tape at 18 wpm. The only "plain" language, was in Spanish. The remainder was all code groups etc. E day arrived. I had considered taking the day off to accompany her downtown. Actually there was little I could do and I think I was more nervous than she. I decided to go to work. She rode the bus downtown — was the only Novice to take the General — passed the code tests, checked and rechecked the questions and was home by noon.

The following days were spent in many "debriefing" sessions.

The following days were spent in many "debriefing" sessions.

I felt fairly sure she passed, but then there cs always that doubt.

We left on a month's camping trip to the cool North Carolina mountains. Arrangements were made to have a neighbor check the mail for an FCC envelope. Two weeks had passed — a call to Miami — "no there wasn't a thing from the Miami FCC office". SHE MADE IT! The long awaited envelope came from Gettysburg dated July 8, — six weeks.

I'm mighty proud of her! We have a "few" things to do before she QNIs QFN but . . . be listening for Ange WB4JJH. One of these days . . .

FINAL REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

estimates it would require an additional 17 employees and related expenses which would cost $86,000 during 1969-70 and $77,000 during 1970-71 to implement this bill. However, they did not estimate any increased costs for the special license plates which could amount up to $37,500 per year.

The bill provides for a $1 (ammended to $5.00) fee which would produce from $100,000 ($150,000 per year.

TRAFFIC MEN!
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FLORIDA SKIP
THE ALL FLORIDA RADIO AMATEUR'S PUBLICATION

FLORIDA SHERIFFS BOYS RANCH RADIO CLUB FORMED

By Dave Stocky, K4KE
(trustee)

Under the sponsorship of the Florida Side-Banders Association, an Amateur Radio Club was activated at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch near Live Oak, Florida.

At an organizational meeting held at the Ranch on November 2, 1969, officers were elected, a Constitution was accepted, and the Club was named — Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Amateur Radio Club, (FSBRARC).

There are about ten Ranchers of high school age and several staffers at the Ranch very enthusiastic about the Club, and are very busy studying the Code.

Mr. Harry Weaver, Administrator and his staff, are doing a tremendous job with the 100 boys presently at the Ranch. The addition of the Radio Club will be another worthwhile activity for these boys and may possibly get them started on a career in electronics.

Since the only source of income for the Ranch is from contributions from concerned people, (no State, Federal or County subsidy is received) the success of the Amateur Radio Club depends upon contributions from concerned amateurs of equipment, time and sufficient funds to purchase necessary incidentals to equip an operating station.

Mail contributions of equipment or cash to:
Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch
Attention: Mrs. Jimmy Lamb, Secretary-Treasurer — FSBRARC
P.O. Box 520
Live Oak, Florida 32060

Volunteer instructors interested in visitng the Ranch and helping the Ranchers from 2 - 5 p.m. any Sunday, please contact Dave K4KE, Trustee. The club should shortly have their station license and the room in the basement of the Chapel ready for occupancy.

(From SPARC-GAP-W4TDK)